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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this book is to bring together in one place empirically based information from many different scientific fields on what is presently known about aggression and related behaviors in children and adolescents. A further purpose of this book is to facilitate research into these behaviors by collecting into one volume the present state of the research. The book begins by describing the types and subtypes of aggressive behaviors, identifying key dimensions of aggression, and discussing the limitations of existing diagnostic categories. The developmental course and prevalence of the problem is explored, and findings reviewed on how and why some children seem to grow out of early-onset aggression. Chapters then examine a wealth of recent research on the neuropsychiatric, psychosocial, and neurobiological processes involved in the onset and maintenance of severe behavioral problems. A coherent framework is outlined for assessment and treatment planning, and widely used psychosocial and pharmacological treatments are evaluated. Special topics covered include understanding and treating conduct disorders in females, a population often overlooked in the literature. (Contains over 1,000 references and an index.) (GCP)

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